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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Operations School

DATE: 15 December 1957

FROM : Chief Instructor,  
War Planning Course

SUBJECT: Final Report - Project USEFUL No. 4

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1. Project USEFUL No. 4 was conducted in Room 153, Building [REDACTED] between 12 November and 22 November 1957. It was attended by thirty-two senior military officers.

2. The mission of this briefing, to provide selected military officers with an orientation concerning the capabilities and limitations of CIA to support military operations in wartime, was accomplished fully according to the critiques submitted by these officers on the last day of the briefing. The group was well satisfied with what they heard and felt that CIA had given them a very frank and forthright picture of its capabilities to support them in wartime. Mr. Wisner's effective participation in the course, in which he was quite frank as to our capabilities and limitations, set the tone for other speakers that followed. Because Gen. Cabell and Mr. Wisner accepted their invitations to participate in this orientation, Chiefs of Area Divisions or Staff Sections also appeared more willing to participate in Project USEFUL No. 4.

3. The course content, which is improving each year, can be further improved by the addition of one or two presentations.

a. The wartime role of the CI Staff was not presented during Project USEFUL No. 4. Prior to another presentation, an approach will be made to the CI Staff with the idea of presenting an "across the board" picture of CIA to these selected military officers.

4. On the plus side, several additions were made in this year's schedule, which added to the course.

a. A presentation was made by [REDACTED] Director of the National Indications Center. He was well received and this presentation will be continued in subsequent years.

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b. As a result of comments received in the critiques on USEFUL No. 3 one large organizational chart was prepared that showed schematically the four Deputy Directors and their organizational structures. This chart was exposed during the entire course and each speaker could step to the chart and show his relative position or "box" and then show his own staff or area division structure in chart form. The previous class suggested that they had been "organized

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and charted to death." The use of the one overall chart reduced the time spent by individual speakers in presenting the basic CIA structure. This will, of course, be continued.

c. Since the presentation of USEFUL No. 3 the office of the Deputy Director for Coordination has been established.

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[REDACTED] was furnished a schedule and was requested to attend any lectures he might desire to hear. Unfortunately the press of other business kept him away. However, for the final session, when the Director could not be present,

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[REDACTED] very ably filled in. His talk was particularly outstanding because of his long military background and as the first Senior War Planner Europe. He was also able to describe in some detail his recently established position as the DDC. He will be requested to participate in future presentations of Project USEFUL.

5. The administration of the course appeared quite acceptable to all concerned. OTR has every reason to be very proud of the manner in which these officers were handled while here. Comments received spoke of the "excellent manner" in which the Agency provided for the students. The course training assistant deserves all of this praise.

6. In summary, this presentation of Project USEFUL was the most successful to date in that the military officers left the Agency with a far better understanding of our capabilities and limitations, but beyond that, a feeling that the Central Intelligence Agency is really putting forth an effort to support US military operations in wartime. Our position vis-a-vis the military has been enhanced by the positive manner adopted by the guest lecturers in the briefings. If all the area divisions and senior staffs continue to realize the good that can result from such fine presentations, this Agency will enjoy better and better relations with the Military Services through the efforts of Project USEFUL.

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